

#161 Understanding the Emotions in Sportsmanship.

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I'm not a huge cricket fan and don't know much about the game, but somehow this year I got hooked on IPL 2024. It's common for people to support their state teams or the teams with notable captains. I used to catch a few CSK matches, and interestingly, every match I watched from start to finish, they won, while the ones I missed, they lost. We're all familiar with CSK, RCB, and MI, which were led by Indian cricket captains, but now they're more like teams following instructions. Watching some matches this season has changed my perspective. This season has been emotionally charged, both good and bad.

I've also been following other teams like SRH, which has been mind-blowing, but I still hope SRH doesn't win the cup reason apart and also I feel no team should win solely because of their captain.

Apart from these thoughts, I do want RCB to win since they're the only captaincy team that hasn't secured the cup yet. Honestly, many CSK fans would probably support RCB next because of their team's consistency. Anyway, what I was thinking and about to write is...

In the last match between RCB and CSK, my appa, thambi, and I were watching together. I was rooting for RCB, but thambi mentioned that even if RCB won, they couldn't make the playoffs, so I thought the same. Despite the rain, I eventually wanted CSK to win then. Thambi isn't really into cricket; he was just keeping us company. I couldn't stay awake for the second innings and went to sleep, but the next day I found out RCB won and made it to the playoffs. I was really happy. I did feel bad for Dhoni, thinking if he stayed on, he deserved a win. My concern was the same for both teams. However, last year's match with Jadeja and their cup victory was unbeatable for Dhoni. Am I right? But then there were controversies about Kohli and the RCB team not shaking hands and celebrating like they'd won the finals, causing chaos among their fans. This is the main reason I started writing this blog.

It might have irritated Dhoni to wait while RCB celebrated, but both their emotions were genuine. The fans were excited because it was a big victory against CSK and a ticket to the playoffs. For 18 years, RCB and its fans were often trolled, yet they remained dedicated. This win was significant, and their exuberance might have been a mix of joy and revenge. While it might not be the best behavior, it's human nature to react strongly after being suppressed by losses. Dhoni is calm and humble, while Kohli is aggressive and enthusiastic; both have their own styles. Dhoni understands Kohli's aggression, and Kohli understands Dhoni's calmness. Expecting Dhoni to be like Kohli or vice versa is unrealistic—they're different, as are their fans. This celebration was just an expression of happiness and victory. Both victory and loss are common in sports and for sportsmen. Sometimes emotions might overshadow sportsmanship, but there's nothing inherently wrong with that—after all, we're all human. However, it's important to know the limits and ensure that our behavior doesn't hurt others.

If anyone has different perspectives, feel free to comment.

Celebrate the Win, Respect the Game...